

World Water Quality Alliance (WWQA)

The Problem

Globally, rivers, lakes and groundwater face complex anthropogenic alterations of water quality posing risks to human health, food security and ecosystems. The Sustainable Development Goal Target 6.3, including its ambient water quality indicator 6.3.2 and other related targets and indicators, address the wide scope of this problem including critical linkages across the 2030 Agenda, other globally agreed goals and trade-offs with economic growth.

Ways forward

The World Water Quality Alliance - currently comprising of more than 50 organizations - represents a voluntary and flexible global Expert, Practitioners and Policy Network, advocating the central role of freshwater quality in achieving prosperity and sustainability. It brings diverse disciplines together to translate science on water quality into action. It explores and communicates water quality risks in global, regional, national and local contexts and points towards scalable solutions for maintaining and restoring ecosystem and human health and well-being. It aims to serve countries throughout the lifetime of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and beyond.

The Alliance focuses on deliverables on three levels:

1. A global assessment of freshwater quality drawing on science – technology – innovation, including a data-fusion approach combining in-situ monitoring, modelling and remote sensing. It will illustrate causal chain cases from drivers to impacts to highlight water quality risks and strategies to mitigate them,
2. Horizon scanning, agenda setting and investigating selected priority topics and solutions based on a collective prioritization process to identify persistent or emerging water quality issues of key environmental and socio-economic concern and,
3. Following a bottom-up approach, co-designing and implementing water quality related services and products, based on a moderated in-country stakeholder driven process to identify and address local demands and needs and to enable subsequent upscaling.

Further information:

communities.unep.org/display/WWQA

www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/press-release/world-water-quality-alliance-launched-tackle-global-water-crisis

www.globe-wq.info

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